Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" It takes only a month to get a reply."

The hon. Mr S MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent will not remember this case. They cannot give answers to our questions without referring to the records. They may return to India before our letter reaches them."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I made a reference to this point at the time of the discussion of the last year's budget. The hon. the Finance Member took me to task for not giving due notice of the matter to the hon. Member of Government concerned . . ."

* The hon the PRESIDENT :—" The hon Member is again furnishing information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Reference was made to this matter in this House by me."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will have to take some other opportunity to refer to that matter."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I ask what the qualifications of the Assistant Professor of Midwifery are for operating that lady and for killing her ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No qualifications are necessary for killing a woman. I want notice if the hon. Member wants information about the qualifications of an officer for conducting successful operations."

Alleged grievances of lepers in the Tirumani Leper Settlement.

11-15 a.m. * 1530 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received complaints about the treatment of lepers in the Tirumani settlement as to diet, exercise and discipline within the last one year ; and

(b) what steps have been taken to enquire into and redress their alleged grievances ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know whether the Government during the Ministership of Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar did not receive complaints about the treatment of lepers ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The answer given in clause (a) is ' No '."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister what arrangements have been made to prevent such complaints ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I have not heard any complaints and the question does not arise."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if the hon. the Minister is aware that probably owing to the bad treatment of these lepers in Tirumani the City of Madras is infested with a number of lepers, especially in the approaches to the buses and trams ? "

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The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of it and if the facts are as stated by the hon. Member, I do not know if it is due to bad treatment. Even in spite of the treatment many people do not go to the settlement."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether there was a strike and about 400 lepers were turned out and they had to come to the city of Madras and go and see respectable leaders in the city ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MADALIYAR .—" May I ask the hon. Member about what time ? "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Last year about this time."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether many of the lepers were turned out ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know whether they were turned out."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that nearly 400 lepers left the asylum ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member is repeating the very question of the hon. Dr. Mallayya."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister will make enquiries and place them before the House ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know whether any useful purpose will be served now by ascertaining whether 400 people left the hospital 15 months ago. If the hon Member wants to know about the condition of the management at present, that will be enquired into."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government have any voice in the management of this institution when the upkeep of it and the expenditure on the institution is borne by Government ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not know what the hon. Member means by ' voice '."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" The institution is maintained by Government funds only."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is again furnishing information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether Government have any voice in the management and whether they can enforce their will ? "

The hon. Mr S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably ; I think so."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the Government have any intention of introducing any legislation for the compulsory segregation of lepers ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That was a matter which was considered four or five years before. Now modern opinion seems to be that wholesale segregation is not desirable. That is a matter still under the consideration of Government."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know whether any responsible Government official visits, inspects and reports as to how matters are in that institution ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not quite sure about who is the officer entrusted with the inspection of this hospital, but I do think that Government are taking proper steps to see that their funds are not maladministered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether there is any attempt to separate the burnt out cases ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That is a matter of detail which I cannot answer without making further enquiries and so I require notice, Sir."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister was ever there ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No."

Registration

Abolition of search fees for copies of public documents.

* 1531 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision regarding the abolition of search fees in connexion with applications for copies of public documents in the Registration department ?

A.—The Government have not under consideration any proposal for abolition of search fees.

Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister will take the matter into consideration ?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is under consideration, that is the answer."

Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR :—" No, Sir, the answer is 'not under consideration'."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" So far as we are concerned there are no circumstances which make Government think of considering. If the hon. Member will mention reasons why it requires reconsideration, the Government will reconsider."

Water-supply

Construction of a dhobikhana at Adoni.

* 1532 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) when a site was acquired near the Adoni Water Works for constructing a 'dhobikhana';

(*b*) whether any, and if so, what progress has been made in the construction of the same and if not, why not;

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to convert the Venkanna Chari well in the town into a 'dhobikhana';

(*d*) whether the above well is situated in the heart of the town;